

Notes from a Recent Vertical Tasting

by Laurie Daniel

Chardonnay

1998 Michaud Vineyard Estate Chardonnay

Racy and fresh, with lime fruit, a firm core of acid and intense minerality.

2000 Michaud Vineyard Estate Chardonnay

Bright, with lemony fruit, juicy acidity and notes of butterscotch, hazelnut and mineral.

2001 Michaud Vineyard Estate Chardonnay

Racy and bright, with layers of citrus, mineral, hazelnut and a nice creaminess. A stunner.

2002 Michaud Vineyard Estate Chardonnay

Quite minerally, with creamy pear and lemon flavors. Could use another year or two in the bottle.

2003 Michaud Vineyard Estate Chardonnay (current release, \$38)

Racy lemon flavors, some mineral and good length. Needs time to flesh out a bit.

Pinot Noir

2000 Michaud Vineyard Estate Pinot Noir

Plump, with flavors of cherry, strawberry and mineral and some floral and chocolate notes.

2002 Michaud Vineyard Estate Pinot Noir

Ripe berry and mineral, with hints of roasted coffee. Firm structure – still needs time.

2003 Michaud Vineyard Estate Pinot Noir

Plump cherry with mineral undertones. Fleshy, but with a firm core of acid and tannin.